

REMARKS

Claims 8-14 are pending in this application. In the office action, the Examiner objected to claim 8 because of informalities. The Examiner also rejected claims 8-14 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by German patent 508,130. Claims 9-14 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, the applicant has amended claim 8. Claims 8-14 are pending in this application. The foregoing amendments and the following remarks are considered by applicant to overcome each of the Examiner's outstanding rejections. An early Notice of Allowance is therefore requested.

The Examiner objected to claim 8 due to certain informalities. Claim 8 has been amended to correct these informalities. Thus, the Examiner's objections are traversed.

The Examiner also rejected claim 8 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by German patent 508,130. As an initial note, the Examiner has cited the prior art reference as being DE 508,130. However, the applicant believes that the appropriate number is DE 508,103. DE 508,130 is directed to a sewing machine.

The Examiner contends that DE 508,103 shows the claimed invention in Figs. 1 and 2. The applicant respectfully disagrees. Figs. 1 and 2 of DE 508,103 show a lubricant container A, springs B and plate C with bristles. DE 508,103 describes using these bristles on plate C to distribute the lubricant in a uniform manner. This is vastly different than the claimed invention. Neither Fig. 1 nor Fig. 2 depict either of the recited claim elements: (a) "an elongated plate which can be arranged in the groove of the rail and which is provided with cutouts at least along one longitudinal edge;" or (b) "said cutouts starting at the longitudinal edge, the lubricant being supplied to these cutouts, and wherein the cutouts of the plate are covered by a cover plate which is constructed so as to be elastic at least in the covering area." Together, these elements distribute lubricants, not the bristles of DE 508,103. Accordingly, claim 8 is not anticipated by DE 508,103 and the Examiner's rejection is traversed.

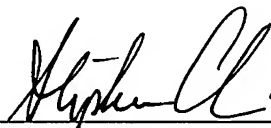
Claims 9-14 depend from claim 8 and should be allowable for the same reasons that claim 8 is allowable.

Claims 8-14, the only claims pending in this application, are believed by applicants to define patentable subject matter and should be passed to issue at the earliest possible time. In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration and prompt notice to that affect are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

REED SMITH, LLP

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By: 
Stephen M. Chin - Reg. No. 39,938
599 Lexington Avenue, 29th Floor
New York, NY 10022, Tel. (212) 521-5400